ever, by many Republicans. The details of a bill, which must be framed to apply to rural districts and large cities, are not easily settled. In the country towns there is no need of such a law, for the names of all the voters are well known, and illegal voting is impossible, if the inspectors are honest. In the cities, on the contrary, some check must be devised to preserve the ballot-box from fraud.

The lobby is well represented. The old familiar faces are again visible, and there is an expectation that a rich harvest is in store. Some of these men have grown gray as well as rich in the business. It would be a new thing in literature to give the biography of some of these men. Some of them have had more influence in shaping legislation than many distinguished politicians. If I can find leisure I will try to do literary justice to a department of political history hitherto neglected.

The late Controller completed his annual report before leaving office, and it is ready for the Legislature as soon as it is organized. The Superintendent of the Banking Department is also ready to report. The report of the late Treasurer, also, is completed; but all the other public officers, as usual, are behind-hand.

I have not been able to obtain a sight at any of these documents.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE CLERK OF THE SENATE.—*Journal Clerk*—James Terwilliger of Onondaga. *Deputy Clerk*—Henry J. Sickles of Orleans. *Engrossing Clerks*—Asa N. Cole of Alleghany, and Chas. G. Fairman of Chemung.

Mr. Terwilliger is reinstated in the place he held last year. Messrs. Cole and Fairman were last year Deputy Clerks in the Assembly. Mr. Sickles was a Deputy Clerk in the Assembly several years since.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1858.

Mr. Pugh has tried his hand at pacification, just as others, perhaps equally distinguished, have tried and failed before. Although some effort was expended to inflate this movement by preconcerted publicity, it fell comparatively still-born on the Senate to-day, and made no impression outside of it. The bill has been referred to the Committee on Territories, and will be overhauled by Judge Douglas, before it leaves his scrutiny, in a manner that will probably deter any future experiments in the same direction.

And what is this compromise, hatched for the purpose of reconciling a conflict between opinion in Ohio and the White House, and designed to relieve the inconvenient responsibility of serving two masters at the same time? It proposes to admit Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, and then to refer the question of Slavery to a popular vote in April next, after which the President by proclamation may declare her a member of the Union. This is certainly a nice morsel for State-Rights men and Strict Constructionists to be asked to swallow, and will be apt to exercise their powers of deglutition, in a style never before attempted. Congress is thus to assume the power of submitting a part of a State Constitution to the people, and to reserve the right of withholding another part. Surely it cannot be pretended that this proposition in any way betters the condition of things, or relieves the objection which stands unrefuted against the Lecompton contrivance. It is a plain admission only, that the Slavery cause was not fairly submitted to the people, and that concession is worth something, coming from such a source. Mr. Pugh maintains, with Calhoun and his confederates, that the *whole* Constitution should not be referred, and he unites with them in taking the most effectual means of preventing any such expression of the popular will. And he forgets, too, that this Constitution has been sent here as an entirety, to be accepted or rejected as such, and on no other terms.

His second condition proposes that the Legislature may authorize a Convention to amend or alter the Constitution, when that Constitution excludes any possibility of change before 1864, thus invoking Congressional intervention in a form never before employed. The whole thing is absurd and a fizzle. Great questions are not settled by any such county-court practice, sharp though it be. The patriotic anxiety of Mr. Pugh to turn pacificator shows at least that he for one is exercised at the ground swell of sentiment which is now disturbing the whole Free States. His oil has not soothed the troubled waters, and before many weeks more he will hear a roar like that of the mighty northern cataract, startling the ears of every Doughface, and admonishing those holding the reins of power that their doom is sealed. As yet the South has given no sign of accepting this bill, and since it has nothing to gain, its support is more than doubtful. They have Mr. Pugh committed, like the Administration, to Lecompton as it stands, and they mean to hold both to the strict penalty of the bond.

Mr. Brown of Miss. had a seizure of vertigo, just as he was advancing in his speech, and was compelled to desist and get a postponement of the debate.

As yet there has been no official meeting of the Special Committee of the Senate on the Pacific Railroad, and therefore, of course, no specific plan has been divised. The bill which was referred, proposed three routes, northern, central and southern, but so far as opinion may be shaped from informal conferences, the inclination is to narrow the project down to one, and to recommend a direct appropriation of the public credit to the extent of forty or fifty millions by the issue of bonds for its construction through the Territories, leaving the States interested to provide for themselves. Considering the present condition of the Treasury and the fact of a declining revenue, this is a modest proposition; but it may gain more favor at the South than might by supposed, since such an appropriation as out of the Federal exchequer would be very convenient before the formation of a Southern Republic.

The inquiry concerning the arrest of Walker was carried this morning with an enlarged scope, so as to embrace a call for the recent Yrissarri treaty—which not being ratified will not be communicated—and a demand to know whether complaint had been made by Nicaragua against Capt. Paulding or his conduct. The occasion was seized to fillibuster a little on the floor; but such demonstrations count for nothing. Mr. Clingman made the requisition at the instance of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and without concert with the Administration. It will be answered, as already indicated in a former letter, by the President deprecating the particular act as a violation of his instructions and an infringement of the sovereignty of Nicaragua, but he will not be superseded.

Mr. Morrill of Vermont brought in a bill to punish polygamy, which seemed to stir up the good humor of the House considerably, and led to discharges of intended facetiousness. It was, however, seriously referred, and may be the entering wedge of important legislation. In looking round the hall, the bald head of Mr. Bernhisel could not be detected; so that this movement against the peculiar institution of Utah went unrebuked by the absence of its only official representative.

It is stated here, upon sufficient authority, that Mr. Bright, after the Philadelphia meeting, in commenting upon the cheers given for Mr. Douglas, said the sentiment appeared to be rather with him than the Administration, and he intended to report that fact to the President. Unless there be some misapprehension, this commentary from so high a source puts something of an extinguisher upon that boasted demonstration. INDEX.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1858.

I telegraphed to you some days ago an important piece of intelligence, which had just reached me from Kansas, to the effect that certain acts which the Legislature of that Territory had passed over the veto of Gov. Stanton, were inoperative in consequence of the failure of the presiding officers to certify to their second passage. The apparent blunder had been noticed by the leading Free-State men in Kansas, and in their letters to this city they expressed much concern at the probable consequences, because the acts thus seemingly defeated were of the highest consequence at this juncture—among them the Militia bill, and the bill repealing the Rebellion law.

On examination of the Kansas-Nebraska act—the organic law of Kansas—I find that the signatures of the presiding officers of the Legislature are not essential to the validity of acts passed by the Legislature over the Governor's veto. The 24th section of the Kansas-Nebraska act reads thus:

"Every bill which shall have passed the Council and House of Representatives of the said Territory shall, before it become a law, be presented to the Governor of the Territory; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the House in which it originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by two thirds of that House, *it shall become a law.*"

If the language of this section of the organic law of Kansas be strictly construed, it is evident that nothing more is necessary to the validity of acts passed over the veto of the Governor of the Territory than their passage by two thirds of each House. The signatures of the presiding officers are not necessary to the validity, but are only of use as an obvious proof of the actual passage of the laws. Sufficient proof of that can of course be furnished by the testimony of the members, and by the record on the journals of the Houses.

In the critical condition of affairs in Kansas, it is of the highest importance that whatever is done by the majority should be done with the sanction of laws. The Pro-Slavery minority in the Territory have hitherto had on their side a certain color or semblance of legality, which, though in reality bogus and obtained only by fraudulent means, has been of vast advantage to them. By the legal and constitutional repeal of the Rebellion law and by the passage of the Militia law the tables are effectually turned, and their just power restored to the majority.

The speech of Senator Brown of Mississippi, on the Kansas question, which was cut short by vertigo yesterday, was not resumed to-day, he being still unwell, and the further discussion of the subject was postponed to Monday next. This delay is fortunate, as in the present state of our information upon the events that are transpiring there, the debate can serve no practical purpose. Mr. Brown was but just beginning his speech when his sudden illness compelled him to stop. What the Democrats think of it, or rather what they will think of it, we happily know beforehand. *The Washington Star*, the Administration's hand-organ, not having heard that the speech was interrupted, declares to-day that Senator Brown "added another to the list "of speeches of great power and force of reason-"ing that Senator Douglas has drawn out. In the "course of his effort, the distinguished Senator "completely demolished the plea of Gov. Walker, "and his right-hand supporter, the honorable Sen-"ator from Illinois." *The Star* adds as a general remark: "We question much whether, upon any "side of any debate, there was ever before deliver-"ed, in either House of Congress, a series of "speeches of so remarkable force of reasoning and "power as have so far been delivered consecutively "on behalf of the Democratic party in this great "discussion."

This, I presume, is a fair sample of the way in which the Democratic opinions of the press that figure so largely in *The Union* are manufactured. Senator Brown might as well forego the labor of preparing and delivering his speech. The only effect it could possibly have has been anticipated by *The Star*, whose article, if diligently circulated among the Northern newspapers which yet remain faithful, will answer every purpose of the speech itself.

The question of fillibustering came up in the House to-day on a proposition by Gen. Quitman to refer the neutrality laws to the consideration of a Special Committee, with a view to their repeal. A very pretty family quarrel immediately sprung up among the harmonious Democracy. Quitman, Keitt of South Carolina, and Stephens of Georgia, assailed the Administration through Commodore Paulding. Quitman, an old man, gray-haired, gray-bearded and gray-appareled, with a cracked voice, made a speech which was listened to attentively on the floor, but was only now and then audible in the newspaper gallery. He argued apparently that the neutrality laws were a violation of the individual rights of the citizens of the United States, and that the Government had no right to prevent private enterprises like that of Walker.

Quitman was followed by Keitt of South Carolina and by Stephens of Georgia. Stephens went so far as to say that it was the duty of the Government to indemnify Walker for his losses, and to reinstate him at Punta Arenas with all his followers—a proposition at which the House only laughed. Extravagant as was the matter of Stephens's speech, it was listened to with an interest which would have surprised a stranger unacquainted with the position which Stephens holds in the House. As seen from the gallery, his slight figure and the contour of his face give him the appearance of a boy—an appearance which is hightened by the high, shrill tones of his voice.

Grow of Pennsylvania, Lovejoy of Illinois, and Stanton of Ohio, made forcible and telling replies to Stephens and to Quitman. Grow pointed out the inconsistency of gentlemen who were so much disturbed at the employment of the navy on the high seas against fillibusters, while they encouraged and abetted the Executive in using the army to trample on the rights of innocent citizens in Kansas.

A discussion upon the legal points of Walker's case sprung up between Stanton and Stephens, in which the former, who is one of the best lawyers in the House, had a manifest advantage.

Glancy Jones defended the Administration and Commodore Paulding against the attacks of his Democratic brethren, but he evidently was not fully prepared to take decisive ground on the question. A great degree of difficulty in dealing with this question in Congress arises from the fact that, with the exception of the avowed fillibusters, gentlemen have not made up their minds on the subject. The debate in the House to-day showed a singular want of preparation. Nobody apparently had taken pains to look up precedents, of which there are several in English history of this century. I believe there are one or two in our own.

SHORT SESSION—KANSAS QUESTION—FILLIBUSTER EXCITEMENT—TREASURY NOTES, &C.

Correspondence of The Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1858.

A rumor is rife among the supporters of the Lecompton Constitution that the Administration will sustain, in Congress, the immediate admission of Kansas as a State into the Union under that instrument, in accordance with the election returns of the 21st of December. I have reason to believe that there is not a word of truth in this rumor. Mr. Buchanan will not take ground in the present phase of the question until the full returns of the election of the 4th of January are received in an official form. The probability is strong at this time that there will be a speedy fulfillment of the prophecy of Judge Douglas, and that the Administration will stand by "the uniform rule" of the will of the majority, as fairly expressed, by giving its great influence to the passage of an enabling bill similar to the Toombs bill and the Minnesota Enabling bill.

It is stated that the recent instructions of the President to Commodore Paulding were sent out with the consent of Señor Yrissarri, the Minister of Nicaragua; and that the party in the pending difficulty which has the right to complain of the action of United States officers in arresting Gen. Walker and his men at Punta Arenas does not complain, but, on the contrary, desired and now approves of the conduct of that officer. This being so, the question reaches a sudden adjustment, greatly to the satisfaction of fair-dealing men, I am sure, of all sections of the country.

The Secretary of the Treasury has fixed three per cent as the rate of interest for the first $6,000,000 of Treasury notes lately authorized by law. These notes will be issued within ten days.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1858.

It is confidently stated here that Gov. Denver declares in the most frank and undisguised manner, that Gov. Walker and Secretary Stanton had pursued the wisest course in their management of the affairs of the Territory. It is a very remarkable fact, that while these late officials are so severely handled out of the country, and here, a thousand miles away from the scene of their labors, all persons of every party in Kansas, or who come from there, unite in commendations of Walker's and Stanton's course as the only just, wise, and politic one in the circumstances of the Territory.

By the by, there is a prospect of Mr. Clingman being sent to the Senate. The death of Judge Porter, of the U. S. District Court, has created a vacancy for which the delegates from North Carolina have unanimously recommended Senator Biggs. He will probably be appointed, and Clingman will receive from Gov. Bragg the commission for the vacancy, with a prospect of being elected by the Legislature at the next session, together with Bragg, there being two vacancies to fill in case Biggs receives the appointment of Judge.

Senator Shields of Minnesota arrived in town yesterday, looking as young, sturdy, and vigorous as when, ten years ago, he embarked for the "big wars," in which he played so gallant a part. Senator Rice is on his way. These gentlemen are devoted friends of Judge Douglas, and will go with him on the Kansas question. Judge Douglas returned last night, in excellent spirits, greatly confirmed in his conviction that the people of the North, including four-fifths of the Democracy, are all with him on the issue which a few rash and reckless partisans have endeavored to inflame into a permanent and serious feud in the party.

James B. Clay, the son of the gallant Harry of the West, who represents the largest slaveholding district in Kentucky, openly declares his determination to require full proofs that the Lecompton Convention expresses the will of the people, and counsels his colleagues not to commit themselves against an enabling act. John W. Stevenson of the Covington District, one of the ablest, most solid and reliable men in Congress, "a chip of the old block," being the only son of the long time distinguished Speaker of the House of Representatives, Andrew Stevenson, is a warm friend of Douglas, though he does not concur in all his opinions on this subject of Kansas.

NEW FILLIBUSTER EXPEDITION.

Correspondence of The Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1858.

There is no doubt that while the controversy is going on in Washington as to whether Paulding did right or wrong in Walker's arrest, active preparations are being made in the South for the sending out of a fillibuster expedition under Gen. Henningsen, from Galveston or New-Orleans, for the relief of Col. Frank Anderson, who at the latest dates occupied Castillo Fort. It would be well, then, for Gen. Cass to recall to the minds of the United States officials in that section the terms of his late circular.

SEDGWICK—STRINGFELLOW.

Correspondence of The Evening Post.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1858.

In the Executive session of the Senate yesterday, Seward made another elaborate and earnest speech against the confirmation of Theodore Sedgwick as District-Attorney for New-York. The friends of Sedgwick attempted to force a vote, but were defeated, and the opposition carried an adjournment by a yea and nay vote of 25 to 21.

The Washington Union of to-morrow will contain letters from Dr. Stringfellow, the Kansas Border Ruffian, against the Lecompton Constitution. Stringfellow declares that its acceptance was in issue at the time of the election of Parrott, the Free-State delegate to Congress, and that the people of Kansas rejected it by five thousand majority. Kansas, he declares, must be a Free State. H.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1858.

The Cabinet had a prolonged sitting to-day on affairs relating to Gen. Walker, Nicaragua, and the conduct of Com. Paulding in the arrest of the fillibusters. The Cabinet is firm in the position it has already taken with regard to these matters. While it will not sustain any of its agents in any irregularity or mistakes they may have made in the execution of a paramount duty, it is disposed to forgive those for the sake of the principle involved, and on account of the policy it has laid down with regard to Central America.

Gen. Walker has written a letter to the President, in which he claims that he has never violated the laws of the United States, and that officers of this Government have in various ways illegally and unconstitutionally interfered with the rights of himself and associates. He clearly expresses his determination to make use of all lawful means for effecting his return to Nicaragua, declares that he will keep within the law hereafter as heretofore, and intimates that if he is interfered with it must be by a constant and continual succession of illegal and unjust acts.

Instructions of a peremptory character were dispatched south to-day to Collectors, District-Attorneys, Marshals, &c., against the departure of fillibustering expeditions, and to rigidly enforce our neutrality laws.

Thomas Stephenson of Kentucky has been appointed Associate Justice for New-Mexico, to succeed Judge Brocchus, resigned.

Correspondence of The Baltimore Sun.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1858.

Some of the newspapers notice what they deem an inconsistency between Gen. Cass's present views on the subject of fillibusterism and those which he expressed in a letter to Capt. Rynders a year or two ago. But there is really no antagonism between the principles then expressed and those now maintained. He then encouraged the movement for the regeneration of Central America, and declared that it could be opposed by no friend of the progress of civilization. Now, as a member of the Administration, and having power to direct a movement for that object, he favors, or the President does, a more efficient course for attaining it. He now proceeds to the object of colonizing and Americanizing Central America by means of treaties with the States composing it. He has negotiated two treaties looking to this great design, and others are in contemplation.

The Cass and Yrissarri treaty, if it be finally concluded, will protect the persons and property of American citizens in Nicaragua, and on the Transit route especially. It will invite colonization and enterprise to the free ports established by the treaty, and will insure the Americanization of the whole Isthmus. It will be observed that this treaty gives to the United States the right of protecting the Nicaragua transit by military force. Military occupation will be followed by peaceful emigration, and consequent Americanization. Belize is very prosperous, and would be much extended in territory but for the stipulation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. Where the Americans settle they will soon obtain dominion.

If expansion in the direction of Central America be an object desirable to the South, or any part of the country, it is to be promoted by the treaty with New Granada, and especially the treaty lately negotiated with Nicaragua.

Correspondence of The Commercial Advertiser.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1858.

It is very apparent that the new excitement in regard to fillibusterism counteracts, in a great measure, the Kansas irritation. The South is in an effervescence on the subject, if we may judge from the tone of Southern members and the press, and of public meetings in the South. Even the grave and generally dignified Assembly of Virginia has taken up the matter, and is about to launch forth fierce denunciations against Commodore Paulding's interfering to break up the Walker expedition, whether with or without orders from the Government. It will be observed that all the pro-fillibuster spirit is decidedly antagonistic to the position and views of the President, as stated in his Message and the article in Sunday's *Union*. That article, by the way, is recognized as the President's own exposition of the subject. It accords entirely with the views he has expressed in conversation.

The treaty which he has made with Nicaragua, and which has been ratified by that State, supersedes all other measures, in his estimation, for Americanizing the Nicaragua transit route. The act of Commodore Paulding was in general conformity with the President's directions, which were that the fillibusters should be intercepted and turned back—in other words, that the expedition should be broken up. It is a fortunate termination both for the President and for Walker's forces, which last would otherwise have been there exposed to great hardship, for it is quite certain that the blockade would have cut them off from supplies.

Congress will sustain the President's views. I learn that the Republicans will undoubtedly support Com. Paulding's action and the general views of the President against fillibusterism. Whether they will go for his Nicaragua treaty is not known.

Senator Douglas will go with the ultra-Southern men on the fillibuster question. This is said to open a way for his reconciliation with the Southern wing of the Democracy, and will help him to sustain his position on the Kansas question.

Senator Pugh's bill for the admission of Kansas as a State, with the Lecompton Constitution, on certain conditions, is not likely to meet with favor very soon. Mr. Douglas will oppose it, and no doubt the Committee on Territories, of which he is the Chairman, will report favorably upon it.

Gen. Walker is to address a note or manifesto to the public concerning his late expedition, and the injuries he has sustained from the Government and its naval officers. It will be in the form of a letter to the President. I should not be surprised if the President should answer it, as he did the New-Haven protest, by a counter appeal. Perhaps the exposition in *The Union*, to which I referred above, will meet the case.

Lieut.-Gen. Scott is here and will conclude the arrangements for the prosecution of the Mormon expedition according to his own views, which are somewhat at variance with those of some military, and some non-military men.

SOUTHERN CONDEMNATION OF COM. PAULDING.

Correspondence of The Baltimore Sun.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1858.

Mr. Clingman, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, offered a resolution to-day calling for the papers in regard to the late transactions in Nicaragua. The subject excites a very deep feeling. It becomes complicated with the antagonism which exists between the North and the South. The Virginia Legislature has taken up the matter, and will probably pass the resolutions introduced by Mr. Kemper in the Senate and Mr. Old in the House. These resolutions are strongly condemnatory of the action of Com. Paulding, and demanding his prompt and severe punishment. The resolutions will, it is said, pass almost unanimously on Wednesday. Other Southern State Legislatures will, no doubt, follow the example of Virginia. In fine, the course of Virginia may be decisive of the general course of the South upon this subject. ION.

WAIFS FROM WASHINGTON.

THE FILLIBUSTERS—WHAT WILL SENATOR DOUGLAS DO?

Correspondence of The Boston Journal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2, 1858.

The imprisoned Mrs. Bluebeard was not more anxious to learn the approach of her deliverer through Sister Ann on the tower-top, than is the "gray-eyed man of destiny" to obtain intelligence as to the probable action of Congress in his behalf. The prospects now are that the *enlevement* of the fillibusters will be emphatically denounced by Gen. Quitman and other ultra Southern champions, while the true Northern men will defend Commodore Paulding for having cut a gordian knot, on the principle that "*the end*," as say the followers of Loyola, "*justifies the means.*" It will rather complicate matters, however, if General Henningsen has quietly put out for Nicaragua with reenforcements for Col. Anderson.

The "Little Giant," it is well known, has ever manifested a partiality for the fillibusters, and it is understood here that it was made manifest to him a few days since that he "mustn't do so no more," if he expects the support of the Republicans. This will make him show his hand. It will be seen whether he merely differs with the Administration on an abstract question, or whether he has abjured his long allegiance to the South, and will oppose anything and everything calculated to increase the extent of slave territory. It will not do for him to simply "attack the Administration," if in attacking it he upholds and defends fillibustering. It is understood that all this has been fully discussed at New-York during the past week, and every one is looking forward with great interest to the next moves on the Congressional checker-board.

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5, 1857.

The calendar of crimes committed in this city during the past year foots up sixteen murders. Some of these are most aggravated cases. Eight of the murderers have not yet been tried; two are yet at large; five have been acquitted, and only one convicted, and he on the ground of insanity. One case hangs over from 1856—that of West, who eleven months ago was sentenced to death for the murder of his wife, under circumstances of peculiar ferocity. The Governor has never appointed a day for his execution, and he still lies in jail. A wide impunity is granted to this class of offenders, and it seems difficult to have the last penalty of the law enforced. The commitments to prison during the past year were 15,828, of which 1,400 were cases of intoxication. The deaths during the year were 11,011, or 1,013 less than in 1856. The deaths from consumption were 1,506. Nearly 22,000 emigrants, principally Irish and German, passed over the Pennsylvania Railroad to the West. There were 336 fires during the year, 80 of which originated accidentally and 159 from incendiarism. The total loss by these fires was $499,223, of which $393,796 was insured, leaving a deficiency of $113,437—a very small amount to be sunk by fire in so large a population. Before this year is ended there will be several steam fire-engines in operation. The magnificent college founded by Girard for the education of the orphan children of Pennsylvania closed the year with 310 orphans within its walls. During the year, 77 have been received and 33 bound out, well educated, to receive trades. So carefully are the funds of this noble institution managed, that $5,000 of unexpended appropriation have been returned to the city treasury. $83,000 were last week appropriated for the support of the institution during the present year. All the moneys thus expended are derived from the revenues of the Girard estate—the maintenance of the college taking precedence of everything else. The boys are fed well, clothed well, thoroughly educated, and provided with a respectable outfit on leaving. Only a single boy was expelled during the past year.

Money is extremely abundant, but this abundance is neither natural at this season or wholesome at any, as it is the result of business stagnation. Gilt-edge paper is seldom seen, and goes readily at 9 to 10 per cent. For anything short of this the rates are furious, and the collaterals must be prime. Bank of Pennsylvania notes are selling at 40 per cent discount! This sounds low, but it is the policy of the institution not to take any special pains to enhance their value. The cheaper they can be bought the more its debtors will be tempted to liquidate their debts to the bank, and this very process is going on satisfactorily. The bank itself has reduced its deposits very low, and its whole circulation is now about $400,000, of which $150,000 was issued some fifty years ago, has been out ever since, and may be now set down as burnt, sunk, or otherwise destroyed, so that that amount of its circulation is clear gain. On Saturday the Commissioners made up their report of the condition of the bank for transmission to the Governor. Last week the steamer brought notice of protest of Mr. Newhall's bill of exchange on Liverpool for £50,000, held by the bank. It was for the solution of this doubt that the Commissioners delayed closing their report until now. Some of our banks are very severe upon their crippled customers, while others are the reverse. Indeed, there appears to be no uniformity in their action except what the law enforces. On Monday next they will commence the publication of weekly reports of their condition. On all these particulars our citizens have heretofore been wholly in the dark. How strong or how weak they are no one knows. Had this system of weekly reports been in operation four years ago, Allibone would have been ignominiously kicked into the street, and the Bank of Pennsylvania saved. They are now evidently straining all they can to be ready to resume, leaving the country banks who object to flounder out of the mud as they can. Some of the latter are in for it pretty deep, and I warn you there will be a good deal of unexpected bursting up in the country banks about the time our city pets resume. Some of them have been riding the latter so grievously, that they are determined to shake off the whole tribe bodily, and if they find, when thus shaken off, that they need more legislation, to let them go to Harrisburg, where they can get just as much or as little as they are willing to pay for. The late relief law which legalized the suspension, has been found to be a greater curse to good sound banking than could have been supposed, while, in the end, it will probably turn out a blessing in disguise, by closing up numerous country concerns now absolutely insolvent. They are now pleading with the city banks to help them in meeting the Treasurer's requisition for coin wherewith to pay the February interest on the State debt, equal to $1,000,000. The city banks refuse with becoming surliness.

The consternation among the straight-out Administration party here is very decided. The Anti-Buchanan Democrats multiply at every turn, and the doings of Congress during the next thirty days will be of the sensation order. The Pennsylvania members will sustain Douglas, whenever the test comes to be applied, and the managers are waking up to a consciousness of the alarming fact that Douglas is already strong enough, single-handed and alone, not only to divide but to defeat. An undisguised astonishment is felt and freely uttered at Mr. Buchanan's tame and unconditional surrender to the South. It is seen now that he has degenerated into a sectionalist of the narrowest kind, falsifying all his public pledges, dashing all hope that he would be the President of the whole Union. Were he a candidate now his own Northern party would repudiate him. And to complete his humiliation, it will yet be seen that he will break down so hopelessly in his infamous designs of forcing Slavery upon Free Kansas, as to sink into a deep so profound that the trumpet of the resurrection morn will never reach him. He is turning up a greater curse to his party than even Pierce, yet from this seeming evil still educing good. Five Governors dispatched to Kansas to force Slavery upon her! Four of them discover that the dirty work required by the South at their hands is too damnable for an honest man to do, and turn away from it with loathing, whereupon Buchanan sends the fifth to finish up the black programme. Talk of the despotism of Rome or Naples! It is freedom itself compared to this atrocious wickedness. Meantime the great Republican heart grows firmer and more buoyant. We stand quiet here, neither few nor dismayed, satified that the avenging hour is approaching, and that in the fullness of time the man also will step forth into the arena.

Pennsylvania, east of the Alleghany mountains, has this season sent 7,000,000 of tuns of coal to market. At $2 the tun, the minimum valuation at the mines, this is $14,000,000! What an embryo California this is, and done too, in the face of a destructive palsy upon all general business, embarrassments among transportation companies, and many interruptions on railways and canals. A million and a half of tuns of bituminous coal has been dug out, west of the mountains, and taken to market, worth $3,000,000 more. In market, this $17,000,000 of coal is worth $35,000,000. This trade has closed out better than was expected when the cold snap in November came down upon us. Some of the coal railroads have brought down an astonishing increase over last year's business. The Lehigh Valley Road has surprised even its friends, by its immensely increased tunnage. There will be no deficiency in the supply of coal. Government has ruined so many manufacturers, and shut up so many hundred mills and foundries, that the consumption has fallen off a million of tuns. Had there been no such falling off, the supply would have been deficient. Another year a radical change will of necessity be made in the manner of buying and selling coal at the mines. The losses made this season by coal and the transportation companies, growing out of an extended credit system, have been so heavy that many of them can do no more business unless they get cash down for their coal at the mines. So operators and consumers all along the seaboard may prepare themselves for doing nothing short of a cash business in coal next year. There may be less of it done in consequence, but it will be better for all parties. The increase in the bituminous coal trade in and around Pittsburgh is most remarkable. It has been four times larger in 1857 than in 1856—being equal to 34,000,000 bushels. The tightness of money through the Lehigh and Schuylkill coal regions has ruined a multitude of small colliers, and knocked down real estate to an awfully low figure. The lessees of various coal mines have become insolvent, and the companies, in consequence, can make no dividends. The lessees sold their coal for paper; the crisis made that paper worthless, and, having no capital of their own to fall back upon, the lessors become the real losers. In every aspect of the case, it may be said, the year opens on this important interest being dreadfully prostrated.

There was a terrible slaughtering of mining stocks at auction a few evenings since. Shares of the Eagle Gold sold at five cents, Monroe at one cent, Eldorado at five, Chesapeake, Michigan, and Ontonagon Companies at ten each, Douglas at 50 cents, and 800 shares Bohemian at $1; 2,000 shares of Philadelphia and California Mining Company at 10 cents, and 3,000 Dickerson Marble Company of Tennessee at one cent. No one but the initiated could form any estimate of the value of any of these stocks, and such, therefore, had the bidding and buying all their own way.

On Wednesday of last week our Mint received in one lot twenty-one tuns of silver in bars, direct from New-Orleans, worth some $800,000.

The bonds of the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, which had been hypothecated by the Company as security for a loan of $20,000, were put in the market by a foreigner with whom they were pledged. But the brokers employed to sell them happened to be honorable men and withheld the proceeds on notice, so that the Company suffers no loss.

The funeral of Miss Eliza Leslie, the author of several popular cookery books, took place on Sunday. Miss Leslie was a native of this city, and was in the 70th year of her age. Her literary labors continued up to the commencement of her last sickness.

A new steam fire engine, built in Kensington, was tried on Saturday. It is constructed on a plan different from any other engine. Steam was got up in twelve minutes; water was sucked in from two plugs, and forced out from two lines of hose in opposite directions, all at the same time. The hose was each 300 feet long, yet the water reached 160 feet beyond the pipe at the end, making the whole distance from the engine 460 feet. The trial was completely successful.

Public amusements are sensibly affected by the hard times. The Academy of Music is deserted and silent, and the theaters are doing an uncertain business. So are many of our large hotels. The masses avoid tables where half a dollar is charged for breakfast, and fatten up on the cheaper fare of the chop-houses.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the New-York Historical Society was held on Tuesday evening in the library of the Society. The Hon. LUTHER BRADISH presided. The reports of the various Standing and Special Committees were read and adopted. Several candidates were proposed for admission into the Society, and a number of gentlemen were elected members. The past year has been one of great prosperity to the Society. Over 400 new members have been admitted, increasing the number to between three and four thousand. A very interesting paper on "Washington's Life Guard" was read by Mr. Benson J. Lossing, who at its conclusion, on motion of Dr. Hawks, received the thanks of the Society. Professor Green in a most florid speech, proposed that the Society take such measures as might be necessary for the recognition of the late Thomas Crawford's place in American History. The speaker gave a highly eulogistic account of Crawford's life and genius. One very interesting incident connected with the former appeared, however, to have escaped his notice. Mr. Crawford commenced life in very humble circumstances. He was in his youth an apprentice to a marble-cutter, in which capacity he was employed, when still quite young, in arranging some mantles in a house in the upper part of Broadway. Not many years afterward, he again entered that house in a different capacity—as the son-in-law of the proprietor.

The following gentlemen were elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year: President, Luther Bradish; First Vice-President, Thomas De Witt, D.D.; Second Vice-President, Frederick De Peyster; Foreign Corresponding Secretary, Edward Robinson, D.D.; Domestic Corresponding Secretary, Samuel Osgood, D.D.; Recording Secretary, Andrew Warner; Treasurer, Wm. Chauncey; Librarian, George Henry Moore.

A lecture will be delivered before the Society on the subject of "Common Sense," by the Rev. Dr. Bethune, on next Tuesday evening.

COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION.

The Commissioners of Emigration met yesterday afternoon at their rooms in Worth street, the President, GULIAN C. VERPLANCK, in the chair. His Honor Mayor Tiemann, by virtue of his office, appeared and took a seat with the Board. He was cordially greeted by the members present.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Ward's Island was received and ordered to be printed in the report. The following is the extract:

Inmates in the Institution Jan. 1, 1857	1,370
Inmates admitted	6,701
Births	468
Total	8,539
Discharged during the year	6,105
Deaths during the year	519
Total number	6,624
Remaining Dec. 31, 1857	1,915
Number of days spent in Hospital	294,544
Number of days spent in Refuge	215,901
Total	510,445
Insane inmates	112

The following is the weekly statement:

Number of alien passengers arrived to Jan. 6, 1858	706
To same date in 1857	5,296

	1858.	1857.	1856.
Number of inmates in institutions at Ward's Island	1,983	1,456	1,977
Number in Marine Hospital	83	130	134
Total	2,066	1,586	2,131

Balance in Bank Jan. 1, 1858	$22,155 89
Received since to 6th for commutation of passengers	1,008 00
Balance of Commutation Fund	$23,163 89

After some conversation the Board adjourned without transacting any business of public interest.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FARMERS' CLUB.

TUESDAY, Jan. 5—R. L. PELL, President of the Institute, in the chair.—The attendance small—probably in consequence of the meeting not having been advertised.

The Secretary, Judge MEIGS, read extracts and translations from foreign journals. One of these mentions the manufacture of parchment paper. This is made by dipping common paper in strong sulphuric acid, diluted with one half its bulk of water, being first allowed to cool. The paper is then instantly washed free of its acid, first in plenty of water, and then in a weak solution of ammonia. A band of common paper that will break with a weight of seven or eight pounds, will sustain a hundred pounds after being thus prepared and allowed to dry.

The rationale of this is, that the acid changes the fiber of the paper material into gelatine, somewhat similar to the substance of skin parchment. This conversion is not any more remarkable than the conversion of cotton into a substance in solution with ether, that forms a tough skin like human cuticle, when it is spread out in the open air. The paper which gives an account of the parchment paper thinks the discovery will lead to many useful purposes.

Another paper read by the Secretary treated largely of the value of various sea plants for food, and also for fertilizers. The sea is full of undeveloped sources of wealth.

Winter Feeding Stock.—This important question was adopted for discussion at a former meeting. It is one of the most important that has been talked over, since the waste of food is almost or quite equal to its consumption—taking the whole country through. The most economical kind of food for stock, as well as the most judicious preparation of it for different classes of domestic animals, is just what every farmer should absolutely know—not guess.

The few thoughts elicited here to-day at this Club should be counted as seed planted for them to cultivate.

Dr. WATERBURY—I have some doubts about the economy of cutting food for cattle to the extent that it is done by some in this country. I have seen lately an account of undigested cut corn-stalks in the rennet. I once lost a fine heifer, which showed, upon dissection, cut straw in the small intestines.

Dr. W. then proceeded to illustrate upon the black-board the form and connection of the different receptacles of food in its passage through the stomachs and intestines, and how it may be carried through undigested, as it naturally will be when the proportion of mere woody fiber is too great for the nutricious matter. Although cutting or chaffing woody fibre may enable animals to eat it, it does not make it nutricious, and however necessary a small amount may be to mix with food, it may be given in too large quantities. He thought some of the phisiological studies connected with this subject are very curious, as well as useful.

He illustrated a case of a bullock that had swallowed a tablefork, the tines of which came out through the side and remained fast, the handle having become encased with a bony substance where it was fixed in the ribs. This was one item of proof that cattle will swallow substances that have no value for food, for instance, the dry butts of cornstalks and corn-cobs.

SOLON ROBINSON—I only wish to enter my protest against all expenditure of money for mills to grind cobs, and all time to convert them into meal, as worse than useless. The only value of cobs is for fuel. They are not even good for manure until burnt, and for food are no better than saw-dust, or any other woody fiber ground fine. It is well enough where straw or hay cannot be had to feed with the corn to grind cobs; but as a general rule it won't pay, because they are not nutritious, and only serve to distend the stomach, and if crowded upon it by the anxiety of the beast to get the little meal of the grain with which the cobs are mixed, too much of the cob portion may be eaten, and the health of the animal injured.

Prof. NASH—I wish Dr. Waterbury would explain what he considers woody fiber, and its effects upon the animal; and of what value is the woody fiber of straw; and whether he would prefer to separate the useless from the valuable portion.

Dr. WATERBURY—I do not think it would be good policy to exclude all woody fiber. In the butts of stalks and in cobs there is too much woody fiber, and all animals will reject them unless tempted by the addition of meal. I think the instict of the animal tells us what is nutritious and what is not. A few years ago the French thought they had made a great discovery by making horse soup with Papin's Digester. But in a little while it was found that it was not a suitable food for man. It did not contain all the requisites.

Prof. NASH—It is manifest that nature intended that beasts should eat woody fiber, and that it is necessary to a certain extent. Hence straw is valuable. So corn cobs may be. But it depends upon the other portions of the feed whether it will be profitable.

WM. LAWTON—I quote some statements of Judge Peters. He was of opinion that 15 lb of cut hay was equal to 25 lb uncut. It should always be fed systematically in regular quantities. He thought a peck of salt to a tun was enough. The economy of cutting feed is undoubted with me. I cut my hay three inches long. A bushel weighs 5½ lb, if heaped and lightly pressed. To each horse or cow, Judge Peters fed three bushels a day, at three feeds, in troughs or boxes. Over-salting feed diminishes nutrition.

Prof. NASH—I grew up a farmer, and never shall outgrow it; and I contend that farmers are possessed of better common sense than mere theorists. Judge Peters in some things is in error. I contend that well-made June hay, uncut, if judiciously fed to cattle, will be consumed and digested, all of it, or as near as in cut hay. Still I approve of chaffing all coarse hay and straw. If all farmers should feed all their cattle food so as to save all the nutriment, it would nearly double the value of their products.

Mr. BERGEN, a Long Island farmer, said that he was satisfied that cob-meal was not valuable, because no animal will eat cobs in their natural state. It is just so with the woody fiber of butts of corn stalks.

Prof. NASH—Because the horse will not eat cobs, does it prove that they are not valuable. Oats are the favorite food of horses. Yet a horse would not probably eat the hulls of oats if separated from the meat.

Mr. BERGEN—In this latitude horses prefer oats, and will always leave corn for oats. It is perhaps because they are more used to oats.

Dr. WATERBURY—I don't believe that woody fiber will sustain any animal. Nothing but insects can get nutriment out of mere wood.

SOLON ROBINSON—It is allowing to what food horses are accustomed to, as to what they will prefer. At the South, where horses are almost wholly unacquainted with the sight of oats, I assure you that a horse will leave oats for corn quite as readily as he will do the reverse of that here. In some large districts the entire food of horses is corn fed in the ear, and corn leaves, called blades. Another very important question was now called up by T. W. Field, who read a very interesting and useful dissertation upon it. We can only give a slight sketch of what he said.

Winter Management of Manure.—T. W. FIELD—The term manure is often misapplied. What we call manure is never food for plants until it is reduced to gases or solutions. With this in view a farmer can judge whether his manure is wasting. The abundant saturation does not injure the manure unless the water runs off; and until fermentation takes place so as to throw off gases, it does not waste. The first action of solid manure or urine upon plants is injurious. Manures, to produce their best effect, must be made pulverient, and thoroughly mixed with the soil it is intended to fertilize. Manure acts upon the soil with a creative faculty, and in its action is somewhat like yeast to flour. A little sets all around at work, and thus while it may kill some plants in connection with the fermenting mass, it produces a food for others. Muck, when used fresh from the swamp, sometimes kills all that the farmer intended to improve; but this does not prove that if it had been properly treated and applied it would not be a valuable fertilizer.

The whole subject of manures may be stated in this proposition:

I. Manure does not waste so long as it is unfermented, or undissolved, and these conditions may be effected by drying or saturation.

II. Fresh manure is unfit for food for plants.

III. Fermenting manure in contact with inert matter has the power of neutralizing vicious properties, such as the tartaric acid of peat, and making it a fertilizer.

IV. Manure wastes in two ways—the escape of gas and the dissolving of its soluble salts.

V. The creative power of manure mixed with other substances is capable of multiplying its value many times.

VI. The value of manure to crops is in proportion to its divisibility through the soil. The golden rule of farming should be small quantities of manure thoroughly divided and intermingled with the soil.

The Winter.—A discussion arose touching the effect of the present weather upon fruit trees.

Judge MEIGS—Within my recollection we have had two Winters when the Hudson was not permanently closed, and the weather did not appear to have had any injurious effect upon fruit trees.

Dr. PECK—Fourteen years ago we had no frost in the ground, and a great deal of plowing was done in January. February was a hard month, and the Spring was backward.

SOLON ROBINSON—The Winter of 1827-8, in Cincinnati, was a very open one, and the following Summer a very productive one of all tree fruits. I think next Summer will be so, since there was a great growth of new wood, and that has become well ripened.

The history and value of the breed of red cattle of New-England will be one of the subjects discussed at the next meeting, Jan. 19.

Philadelphia Cattle Market...JAN. 6.

The two drove-yards were quite well supplied with Beeves yesterday and to-day, the offerings having amounted to about 1,200 head, most of which was in prime order, and from Ohio and Chester County. Prices declined about 25c. on the 100 lb for the best quality of stock, some having been sold for more than $10 25 ⅌ 100 lb. The prices averaged from $7 50@$10.

SHEEP—The demand for Sheep was greater than the supply, consequently prices ranged rather high, the offerings amounted to only 2,500 head, and these were sold at from $3@$4 50 each, according to quality.

HOGS—This market was quite active, and sales reached to the amount of 3,020 head, at from $6 25@$7 ⅌ 100 lb.

COWS—There was but little change in this market, 225 head having been sold at from $35@$50 for milk Cows, and from $15@30 for dry Cows.